



## Select Poetry.

### DON'T LEAVE THE FARM.

Come boys, I have something to tell you,  
Come near, I would whisper it low—  
You are thinking of leaving the homestead,  
Don't be in a hurry to go.  
The city has many attractions,  
But think of the vices and sins,  
When once in the vortex of fashion,  
How soon the course downward begins.

You talk of the mines of Australia,  
They're wealthy in gold, without doubt,  
But all there is gold on the farm, boys,  
If only you'll shovel it out.  
The mercantile life is a hazard,  
The goods are first high and then low,  
Better risk the old farm a while longer,  
Don't be in a hurry to go.

The great busy West has inducements,  
And so has the bustling East,  
But wealth is not made in a day, boys,  
Don't be in a hurry to start!  
The bankers and brokers are wealthy,  
They take in their thousands or so,  
Ah! think of the frauds and deceptions,  
Don't be in a hurry to go!

The farm is the safest and surest,  
The orchards are loaded to-day,  
You're free as the air of the mountains,  
And monarch of all you survey.  
Better stay on the farm a while longer,  
Though profits should come rather slow,  
Remember you're nothing to risk, boys,  
Don't be in a hurry to go!

## Good Counsel.

From the New York Ledger.

### ADVICE TO YOUNG LADIES.

BY MISS M. L. ALCOTT.

One of the trials of woman-kind is the fear of being an old maid. To escape this dreadful doom young girls rush into matrimony with a recklessness that astonishes the beholder; never pausing to remember that the loss of liberty, happiness and self respect, is poorly repaid by the barren honor of being called "Mrs." instead of "Miss."

Fortunately, this foolish prejudice is fast disappearing, conquered by the success of a certain class belonging to the sisterhood. This class is composed of superior women who, from various causes, remain single, and devote themselves to some earnest work; exposing philanthropy, art, literature, music, medicine, or whatever task, necessity, or chance suggests, and remaining as faithful to and as happy in their choice as married women with husbands and homes. It being my good fortune to know several such, I venture to offer a little sketch of them to those of my young countrywomen who, from choice or necessity, stand alone, seeking to find the happiness which is the right of all.

Here is L., a rich man's daughter; pretty, accomplished, sensible and good. She tried fashionable life and found that it did not satisfy her. No lover was happy enough to make a response in her heart, and at twenty-three she looked about her for something to occupy and interest her. She was attracted towards the study of medicine; became absorbed in it; went alone to Paris and London; studied faithfully; received her diploma, and, having practiced successfully for a time, was appointed the resident physician of a city hospital. Here, doing a truly womanly work, she finds no time for ennui, unhappiness, or the vague longing for something to fill heart and life, which leads so many women to take refuge in frivolous or dangerous amusements and pursuits. She never talks of her mission or her rights, but beautifully fulfills the one and quietly assumes the others. Few critics or condemn her course, and none question her success. Respected and beloved by all who know her, she finds genuine satisfaction in her work, and is the busiest, happiest, most useful woman I know.

Next comes M., a brilliant, talented, girl, full of energy, ambition, and noble aspirations. Poor, yet attractive, through natural gifts and graces, to her came the great temptation of such a girl's life—a rich lover; an excellent young man, but her inferior in all respects. She felt this, and so did he, but hoping that love would make them equals, he urged his suit.

"If I loved him," she said, "my way would be plain, and I should not hesitate a minute. But I do not; I've tried, and I am sure I never can feel towards him as I should. It is a great temptation, for I long to cultivate my talent to help my family, to see the world, and enjoy life, and all this may be done if I say 'Yes.' People tell me I am foolish to reject this good fortune; that it is my duty to accept it; that I shall get very well without love, and talk as if it were a business transaction. It is hard to say 'No,' but I must, for in marriage I want to look up, not down. I cannot make it seem right to take this offer, and I must let it go, for I dare not sell my liberty."

She made her choice, turned away from the pleasant future laid before her, and took up her load again. With her one talent in her hand she faced poverty, cheerfully teaching music, year after year; hoping always, complaining never, and finding herself a stronger, happier woman for that act. A richer woman also; for, though the husband was lost, a true friend was gained—since the lover, with respect added to his love said manfully, "She is right; God bless her!"

S. is poor, plain, ungifted, and ordinary in all things but one—a cheerful, helpful spirit, that loves its neighbor better than itself, and cannot rest till it has proved its sincerity. Few, so placid, would have lived forty hard, dull years, without be-

coming either sharp and sour, or bitter and blue. But S. is as sweet and sunny as a child; and, to those who know her, the personification of content. The only talent she possesses is that of loving every helpless, suffering, forlorn, and outcast creature whom she meets. Finding her reward of home duties too small for her benevolence, she became one of the home missionaries, whose reports are never read, whose salaries are never paid on earth. Poverty-stricken homes, sick-beds, sinful souls and sorrowing hearts, attract her as irresistibly as pleasure attracts other women, and she faithfully ministers to such, unknown and unrewarded.

"I never had a lover, and I never can have, you know. I'm so plain," she says, with a smile that is pathetic in its humility, its unconscious wistfulness.

She is mistaken here; for there are many to whom that plain face is beautiful, that helpful hand very dear. Her lovers are not of the romantic sort; but old women, little children, and forlorn girls give her an affection as endearing and sincere as any husband could have done. Few will know her worth here, but in the long hereafter, I am sure S. will be blessed with eternal beauty, happiness and love.

A. is a woman of a strongly individual type, who in the course of an unusually varied experience has seen so much of what a wise man has called "the tragedy of modern married life," that she is afraid to try it. Knowing that for one of a peculiar nature like herself such an experiment would be doubly hazardous, she has obeyed instinct and become a chronic old maid. Filial and fraternal love must satisfy her, and grateful that such ties are possible, she lives for them and is content.

Literature is a fond and faithful spouse, and the little family that has sprung up around her, though perhaps unlovely and uninteresting to others, is a profitable source of satisfaction to her maternal heart. After a somewhat tempestuous voyage, she is glad to find herself in a quiet haven whence she can look back upon her vanished youth and feel that though the blossom time of life is passed, a little fruit remains to ripen in the early autumn coming on. Not lonely, for parents, brothers and sisters, friends and babies, keep her heart full and warm; not idle, for necessity, stern, yet kindly teacher, has taught her the worth of work; not unhappy, for love and labor, like good angels, walk at either hand, and the divine friend fills the world with strength and beauty for the soul and eyes that have learned to feel and see it thankfully.

My sisters, don't be afraid of the words "Old maid," for it is in your power to make this a term of honor, not reproach. It is not necessary to be a sour, spiteful spinster, with nothing to do but brew tea, talk scandal and tend a pocket-handkerchief. No, the world is full of work, needing all the heads, hearts and hands we can bring to do it. Never was there so splendid an opportunity for women to enjoy their liberty and prove that they deserve it by using it wisely. If love comes as it should come, accept it in God's name, and be worthy of His best blessing. If it never comes, then in God's name reject the shadow of it, for that can never satisfy a hungry heart. Do not be ashamed to own the truth—do not be daunted by the fear of ridicule and loneliness, nor saddened by the loss of a woman's tenderness ties. Be true to yourselves; cherish whatever talent you possess, and in using it faithfully for the good of others you will most assuredly find happiness for yourself, and make of life no failure, but a beautiful success.

### Official Agricultural Report for March.

The March report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture includes several tables relative to farm animals. The returns of the numbers and prices of live-stock show a slight increase during the year in horses, mules, cattle, and milch cows, and a decrease in sheep. The New England States exhibit a decrease of from six to thirteen per cent. in swine; the Southern States from five to twenty five per cent. except Arkansas and Tennessee, which gave an increase of twenty-three and twelve per cent. respectively; Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin, show a slight decrease; Indiana and Michigan no material change, and Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska an increase. A diminution in numbers of sheep is noticed in every State except New Jersey, Arkansas, Tennessee, West Virginia, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Nebraska.

The decrease in prices is more marked than in numbers, amounting in many States to a reduction of thirty or forty per cent. The aggregate is not less than thirty-five millions of dollars, averaging nearly a dollar a head.

A reduction is noticed in prices of horses and mules in every section of the country, in comparison with those of last year. The decline is more apparent in the Southern States than elsewhere, owing to the gloomy state of feeling in the cotton section, where the returns were made.

The price of cattle is reported higher than last year in many of the States, with the exception of milch cows, which have very generally decreased in value.

Posthumous fame is a plant of tardy growth, for our body must be the seed of it; or we may liken it to a torch, which nothing but the last spark of life can light up; or we may compare it to the trumpet of the archangel, for it is blown over the dead; but unlike that awful blast, it is of earth not of heaven, and can neither rouse nor raise us.

## Biographical Sketches.

### Rich Men of America.

In his address on "Success in business," Horace Greeley instances four men of this country who have made immense fortunes by their own exertions, viz.: Stephen Girard, John Jacob Astor, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and Alexander T. Stewart. The former two have been dead for some years; the latter two are not only living, but are in the full tide of their successful career.

Mr. Vanderbilt, who is justly termed the "Railroad King," after putting the Hudson River and Harlem Railroads on a splendid paying basis, has, with the consent of the stockholders, turned his attention to "bull"-ing the New York Central Railroad stock, by putting the road under a sound financial administration. The result of his vigorous policy is sufficiently manifest in the steady appreciation of the stock of the road, an unerring indication of public confidence. Mr. Stewart is not only the richest, but the most systematic and prosperous merchant in the world. From the revenue returns of 1865, it was shown that his earnings for that year amounted to nearly five millions of dollars.

Of the four persons mentioned, Mr. Stewart is the only one who possessed anything beyond the most common rudimentary education.

The following brief sketches of these American millionaires will, we trust, prove interesting to our readers:

#### STEPHEN GIRARD,

who was a native of France, having been born near Bordeaux, May 24, 1759, commenced drifting upon the world at the age of ten or twelve years. He first engaged as a cabin-boy in a vessel bound for the West Indies. He soon afterwards came to New York, as a cabin-boy apprentice to Captain J. Randall, whose attachment to him, on account of his many qualities, was early manifested in tokens of confidence and steady promotions. From a cabin-boy he gradually passed to the command of his vessel, which ran between New York and New Orleans. He was sober, diligent, and, as a consequence, successful. "Lucky," they called him; but his "luck," like the most called by that name, was but the logical result of his good qualities.

He went to Philadelphia in 1769, where he became, in course of time, "the richest millionaire in the land." Mr. Girard had one quality which is possessed, to a greater or less extent, by all truly successful men. He was never ashamed nor afraid to work himself; and so, of course, never despised those who were obliged to work. His severe republican notions stuck to him with strange tenacity through all the years of his great wealth. During the Revolutionary war, he battled and sold cider and claret. In 1780 he was engaged in trade to St. Domingo and New Orleans. In 1790 he was reported to be worth thirty thousand dollars. In 1811, in expectation of a renewal of the charter of the old Bank of the United States, he purchased a large amount of the stock of that institution. The charter was not renewed, and the banking house coming into his hands at a reduced price, the Bank of the United States became "Stephen Girard's Bank."

Mr. Girard took a sincere pride in his city, and did much to make it attractive. He had a great ambition to become the richest man in the country; as also to be remembered as a friend to the poor, and a patron to education. In pursuance of the latter impulse, he established, under a munificent endowment, and with some strange restrictions, Girard College of Philadelphia. His life was full of eccentricities, some of which we shall present in future issues.

#### JOHN JACOB ASTOR,

who enjoyed in his life-time the reputation of being the "richest merchant in America," was born near Heidelberg, Germany, in the year 1768. He came to this country at the age of nineteen, when the now thickly-settled and cultivated State of New York was little more than a trackless wilderness. His attention was early turned to the fur business, which became the engrossing occupation of his life. He made frequent excursions into the Mohawk River to traffic with the Indians, and was successful in his early speculations. He was one of the principal movers in the American Fur Company, which soon became a successful competitor with European capitalists, who controlled the North-western and Canadian Fur Companies. He finally extended his business to the mouth of the Columbia River, where he established a fur trading station which was named for him, Astoria, and is yet an important commercial point.

His confidence in the American Government enabled him to amass a large amount of wealth in the purchase of United States securities during the war of 1812. Many of these bonds, which he purchased at sixty or seventy cents on the dollar, he afterwards sold at twenty per cent above par. In later years he turned his attention to real estate in the city of New York, his keen sagacity pointing out to him the sure and steady advancement of the metropolis, and the inevitable appreciation of land on Manhattan Island. As the result of sixteen years' hard labor and close economy, he was worth a quarter of a million. At his death he was reputed to be worth not less than twenty millions. The remark has been attributed

to him that, "with a start of a million dollars, it requires but little to get rich." The history of a rich man shows that the earning of the first thousand dollars is the most difficult step on the road to wealth.

Mr. Astor died in March, 1848, bequeathing four hundred thousand dollars to found a free public library, which is known as the Astor Library, and comprises the most extensive and best classified assortment of books in the country. The bulk of his property descended to his son, William B. Astor, who has frequently been estimated the richest man in the world.

#### CORNELIUS VANDERBILT

was born on Staten Island, May 27, 1794. His early education was deficient—owing quite as much to his own taste for books as to his lack of opportunity. He was always, however, bright, intelligent, and full of energy; and what he failed to draw from books, he more than made good in practical observations and applications. At the age of sixteen he determined to strike out for himself. His first project was to become the owner of a sail-boat. He applied to his father for aid, but was not at first successful. After considerable importunity he was promised the necessary amount—one hundred dollars—upon the completion of a certain task on the farm. With the ready aid of a few companions, to whom he imparted his secret, the task was soon completed, and the first "Vanderbilt" boat was afloat under the command of its owner. Like most first efforts, this virgin essay at seamanship was not wholly without its adverse incidents. The boat ran upon a rock, and it required all the skill and coolness of its inexperienced commander, to run it ashore before it sunk. The wreck was not a total one, however, and after a few hours, the injury was repaired, and the intrepid navigator brought up in proper style at the Stapleton dock.

The bent of the youthful mind thus plainly shadowed forth the probable destiny of the man, who has since been known to be the largest owner of steamboat property in the world. In 1817 Mr. Vanderbilt commanded his first steamboat, which, on account of its size, was called "The Mouse of the Mountain." In a few months he was promoted to a larger craft, the "Bellona," which plied between New York and New Brunswick, which was then the great route to Philadelphia. In 1827 he leased the New York and Elizabethport ferry for seven years; and at the end of that time for seven years more, making an excellent success out of a previous failure.

His great financial prosperity commenced with the California gold excitement in 1849, culminating in the establishment and control of the Nicaragua route, which was completed in July, 1851. The amount of business done over this route, and the enormous rates charged for freight and passengers, could have but one result, so far as the owners were concerned.

In 1853, Mr. Vanderbilt, with his family, took a pleasure excursion to Europe in his own vessel, the North Star, which was built and furnished for that purpose. He visited most of the European ports, and was treated with great courtesy by the authorities and eminent citizens of England, France, Austria, and Russia.

During our late civil war, when the Government was in straits for vessels to carry on its naval operations, Commodore Vanderbilt made a free offer of his splendid ship, the "Vanderbilt," which, though not accepted, procured for him quite a national reputation.

During recent years, Mr. Vanderbilt has devoted himself to railroad interests with the same energy and success that has characterized his whole life. As President of the New York Central, Hudson River, and Harlem Railroads, he has wrought wonders, both for the public and the stockholders, conclusively showing that good dividends are not incompatible with the security and comfort of the traveling public.

By referring to the date of his birth, it will be seen that Mr. Vanderbilt is now 74 years old—an age which would seem to demand retirement and rest. Instead of these, however, he was never more burdened with labor and responsibility, and never more active and capable in the discharge of his great trusts. A brain like his can never rest while there is vital force to give it scope.

#### ALEXANDER T. STEWART,

is a native of Ireland. He came to this country while a young man, and was first employed in teaching. He soon engaged in a small way as a merchant. His first store was opened in 1827, and was conducted, in all its departments, by himself. His adaptability to his new pursuits soon became manifest in his prosperity. At a fortunate juncture, he purchased the site upon which now stands the structure for so many years known as Stewart's Marble Palace, on the corner of Chambers Street, Broadway and Reade Street. In erecting this immense building, on the east side of Broadway, Mr. Stewart committed two acts of innovation which plainly indicated his independence and nerve. The west side of Broadway was known as the promenade, or "shilling" side, as opposed to the deserted, or "sixpenny" side, and trade was supposed to prosper only on the west side; while never before had the most venturesome tradesman dared to invest in so costly a structure. To one who now visits Broadway for the first time, it will hardly seem possible that until within the past fifteen years, Stewart's marble store

was the only marble building on that magnificent street. He may be said to have fixed the character of the street, for now scarcely any other material is used for the business houses of Broadway. In 1860 the splendid retail store on the corner of Tenth Street was built, which, with the addition now being made, will occupy nearly the entire block, bounded by Broadway, Tenth Street, Fourth Avenue and Ninth Street. This is, undoubtedly, the largest retail dry goods store in the world—and, without question, the most perfect and systematic in its arrangements. In fact, the one word, *system*, may be regarded as the key to this wonderful success. Everything connected with the business is subjected to the most exact system. The business itself may be likened to a huge machine with every cog, wheel, belt and pulley in its place. There is little or no freedom of action among the numerous employees of the establishment. Every movement is regulated as if by clock work and whoever cannot conform to once to the arrangement, is permitted, without any circumlocution, to form a part of some other machine.

Mr. Stewart has nearly completed the most costly and elegant private residence in this country, on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street—the exterior being of his favorite material, white marble, elaborately wrought. The cost of this palace is variously estimated at from one to two millions of dollars. It certainly should not be considered extravagant for a man to invest the third of one year's earnings in a private residence.

Mr. Stewart is a public minded citizen, and contributes liberally of his immense wealth to charitable purposes. There have been various reports as to his practical philanthropy, in erecting cheap dwellings for the poor, after the manner of Mr. Peabody's London plan.

In thus hastily reviewing the career of these eminent men, one point will be observable. Their success has been the result of unremitting labor in the special directions chosen, and of unbending integrity and promptness in all matters of business. The leading idea upon which Mr. Stewart's fortune was founded was the steady persistence in the "one price" system. Whoever purchases an article at his counter can be sure that he pays neither more nor less than does everybody else. And, more than this, every article sold is just what it is represented to be. A clerk cannot commit a more positive offence than to claim for an article qualities which it does not possess. He would be as soon discharged for such an act, as for dishonesty towards his employer.

### The Press Festival to Mr. Dickens.

The press festival in honor of Mr. Dickens took place in New York Saturday evening at Delmonico's. Among the two hundred present were Messrs. Greeley, Raymond, Halstead of Cincinnati, ex-Governor Hawley of Connecticut, Richard Hoe, Samuel Bowers and Manton Marble.

After the guests had taken their places, Mr. Dickens entered under the escort of Mr. Greeley, and was cordially received. Mr. Greeley, who presided, introduced Mr. Dickens by referring to his introduction to Americans twenty-four years ago of a young English writer, then known as "Boz." After some complimentary allusions to the guests, Mr. Greeley said the American press honored itself in honoring the man who had climbed from the lowest round of the ladder of the press, and his triumph in attaining his present eminence was shared alike by every honest member of the fraternity.

He concluded by offering as a toast, "Health, Happiness, Honor and Generous Recompense to our friend and guest, Charles Dickens."

When the applause had subsided Mr. Dickens responded in an extended address, in which he alluded to the feelings excited among Americans by unfavorable opinions expressed in his "American Notes" and "Chuzzlewit." He was delighted to witness an improvement in the social, moral and material condition of the country as seen during this, his last visit.

In the works referred to he had given his honest impressions at the time. Though a report prevailed that it was his intention to write another book on America, it was false, as it was his firm determination not to write another work on that subject.

On his return to England he should publish in his own journal his present impressions of America, and do justice to the people of the country. He pledged himself that so long as he or his heirs, had any interest in the editions of "Chuzzlewit" or the "American Notes," those books should contain an appendix refuting any assertions therein contained.

Speeches were made by Mr. Raymond of the Times ex-Governor Hawley, George W. Curtis, Esq. Mr. Young, of the Tribune, and many others.

When Dr. Johnson had completed his Dictionary, which had quite exhausted the patience of Mr. A. Miller, his bookseller, the latter acknowledged the receipt of the last sheet, in the following note—"And w. Miller sends his compliments to Dr. Saml. Johnson, with the money for the last sheet of the Dictionary, and thanks God he has done with him." Johnson replied he was happy to find that A. Miller thanked God for anything. Miller was a freethinker.

The praise of the envious is far less creditable than their censure; they praise only that which they can surpass, but that which surpasses them, they censure. See to it that we discard envy.

## Wit and Humor.

### For the Middletown Transcript.

Mr. Editor.—If your ever-laughable humorous column is not full, for this week, please insert the following. It has been published before, but will bear republishing. Yours, &c. Broom.

#### I Wad Knott Dye in Winter.

BY THE AUTHOR OF THOUGHTS ON A FADED BOKA.

I wud not dye in winter,  
When whiskie punchiz flo—  
When pooley gels air skating  
Our fadils of ice & sno—  
When ausside meet is playing  
& Hickeri knuts is thick;  
Owe! who would think of dying,  
Or even getting sick.

I wud knott dye in spring time  
& miss the turn up greens,  
& the pooley song of leetle frawgs,  
& the shi larks airly screem;  
When birds begin their wobbiling  
& taters gin to sprout—  
When to kins go a gobblin,  
I wud knott then peg out.

I wud knott dye in summer,  
& leave the garden sass—  
The rosted lam & butter milk—  
The kool place in the grass;  
I wud not dye in summer  
When every thing's so hot;  
& leave the whiskie Jew lips—  
Oweknow! ide ruther knott.

I wud not dye in ortum,  
With peaches fit for eatin;  
With the werry korn is getting ripe  
& kandidates are treeeting,  
Phor these and other wrensions,  
Ide knott dye in the phall;  
& sense I've thort it over,  
I wud not dye a tall.

In a certain family, not long since, a pair of twins made their appearance, and as a matter of course, were shown to their little sister of four years. Now it so happened that whenever a rather prolific cat of the household had kittens, one of them, of course the prettiest, was saved and the rest drowned. When the twins were shown the child by their happy father, little Mary looked at them long and earnestly, and at length putting her little finger tip on the cheek of one of them, looked up, and said with all the seriousness possible, "Papa, I think we'll save this one!"

A learned professor in a college was accustomed to demand of students an excuse whenever they were dilatory at recitation. The excuse given, he invariably added: "Very well; but don't let it happen again." One morning a married student happening to be behind time, was promptly interrogated as to the cause. Slightly embarrassed, he replied:

"The truth is sir, I had an addition to my family this morning, and it was not convenient to be here sooner."

"Very well," replied the professor, in his quick, nervous manner, "very well; but don't let it happen again."

A young man who carried a collecting plate after the service in church, before starting put his hand in his pocket, and put as he supposed, a shilling on the plate, and then passed it around among the congregation, which included many young and pretty girls. The girls, as they looked at the plate, all seemed astonished and amused; and the man, taking a glance at the plate found that instead of a shilling, he had put a conversation lozenge on the plate with the words, "Will you marry me?" in red letters, staring every body in the face.

A lively stable keeper, named Spurr, would never let a horse go out without requesting the hirer not to drive fast. One day a young man called to get a turn out to attend a funeral. "Certainly said Spurr, 'but," he added, forgetting the solemn purpose for which the young man required the horse, "don't drive fast."

"Why, look here, old feller," said the somewhat excited young man. "I want you to understand that I shall keep up with the procession if it kills the horse."

A story is told of a French lady who exclaimed, as she took a glass of water in her hand, "Oh, if it were only wicked to drink this, how nice it would be!" That is just human nature. If children are gratuitously told not to do a thing they are pretty likely to experience an intense desire to do it which was unfelt before; and somehow we never wholly outgrow this curious inclination.

A teacher asked a bright-eyed little girl, "What country is opposite us on the globe?"

"Don't know, sir," was the answer. "Well now," pursued the teacher, "If I were to bore a hole through the earth, and you were to go in at this end; where would you come out?"

"Out of the hole, sir," replied the pupil with an air of triumph.

There is a man in Boston so absent-minded that, meeting his son on the street a day or two since, he extended his hand to him and enquired, "How do you do? when is your father coming home?"

If everybody would mind his own business, more business would be done.

If we would talk less about other people other people would talk less about us.

What do the ladies look at most in church? At the kims.

## Agricultural Department.

### The Potato.

Mr. George Green, of Bethnell, England, in his prize essay on the potato, gives the results of experiments on 120 trial plots, which may be summed up as follows:

1. Every increase in the size of the set, from one ounce to eight ounces in weight, produces an increase in the crop much greater than the additional weight of the set planted. The net profit, over and above the extra weight of sets in planting four ounce sets in lieu of one ounce sets, amounted, on the whole series of experiments, to between three and four tons per acre, and the further profit, on the increase of the size of the set from four to eight ounces, average about five tons per acre, all the intermediate sets partaking proportionately of the increase.

2. The advantage of large sets is more marked in the late than in the earlier varieties.

3. In the use of small sets, of from one to three ounces in weight, a large balance over and above the weight of the sets was obtained by planting from six to nine inches apart in the rows than at wider intervals.

4. Increasing the intervals at which the sets are planted, even of the largest size, in the rows, to more than twelve inches, diminishes the crop, and the wider intervals induce no increase in the weight of the produce of the individual sets.

5. It may be broadly stated that the weight of the crop is proportionate to the weight per acre of the sets, and that small sets will produce the same crop as an equal weight per acre of large sets. The fact is, however, of limited application, as a weight of very small sets, equal to a weight of full-sized potatoes, could not be got into the ground, except by planting them so close as to be prejudicial to the crop. The advantages, therefore, of large sets remains practically unimpaired.

6. Weight for weight, cut sets produce as nearly as possible the same weight per acre as whole potatoes, but, for the reasons given above, the weights of the sets should not be reduced by subdivision.

7. Smaller sets give a larger produce in proportion to their size than the larger sets.

8. When the intervals between the sets in rows are diminished to less than a foot, the produce of each individual set is proportionately diminished—though this is not necessarily accompanied by a diminution of the weight of the crop, no increase in the produce of each individual set is caused by placing the set at intervals of more than a foot.

9. With reference to the relative produce of different varieties, a late red sort takes precedence throughout the experiments, and of the several varieties of Finkes, "Spencer's King of Finkes," and the "Queen of Finkes," are much more prolific than the ordinary variety.

As to the manure best adapted to the potato, it was found by Dr. Lang that all nitrogenous dressing tried in Devonshire were rather prejudicial than otherwise, as regards the potato disease, but that wood ashes, which abound in potash, and lime and salt were beneficial.

Experiments with regard to manures were carried on under the directions of Professor Volcker, and on examining them the following deductions have been made:

1. The best crop was obtained by the use of rotten barnyard manure.

2. Superphosphates and crude potash salts—a pure mineral manuring—gave nearly equal increases. The mixture of superphosphates and crude potash salts appear to be specially useful for root crops on light land.

3. Common salt enhances the efficiency of the superphosphates and potash salt, but when used alone it slightly diminishes the crop.

4. Potash salts applied alone, though by no means the most desirable manure for potatoes, nevertheless had a better effect than common salt; for while the crude potash salts gave an increase of nearly 8 cwt. per acre, common salt produces 7 cwt. and 44 lbs. less than the manured plots on the average.

### Effect of Bright Red on Animals.

We have never yet been able to arrive at a solution of the curious effects of the sight of scarlet, or brilliant orange or crimson on animals. No treatise on natural history we ever have seen has given a satisfactory explanation of facts which must often have been noticed by the most unobservant. Many persons have unquestionably lost their lives in consequence of wearing articles of dress which provoked domesticated animals to such a pitch of fury as to lead to melancholy results. Females, for example, in attempting to cross a pasture, wearing a red shawl, a red covering for the head, a scarlet dress, or flowing scarlet ribbons, where bulls are grazing hazard their lives. Oxen, otherwise peaceably disposed, become intensely infuriated at some seasons by the sight of bright red handkerchiefs, or almost any article of female dress of that particular hue. It is equally curious that turkeys manifest the same restlessness and ultimate excitement at red flags or red dresses. The turkey-cock on such occasions assumes extraordinary dignity, gobbling most uproariously, and creating immense excitement in his family, not accustomed to the sight. Nearly all the wild grazing animals exhibit extreme surprise, if not positive fright, when a red cloth



Gen. Hancock.

The name of Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, is looming up as the Democratic candidate for President. A New Orleans paper pays him a glowing tribute, and thinks he would unite the War Democrats and the Peace Democrats, the Johnson men, the Pendleton men, the Conservatives, the moderate Republicans, and all who are opposed to the madness of Radicalism. The Pennsylvania delegation to the Democratic National Convention, it is said, will vote solid for his nomination. The Central Democratic Club of Westmoreland county, Pa. has declared for him. The good sense he displayed while in command at New Orleans, in holding the military in subordination to the civil power, has attracted public attention towards him, and proves him to be imbued with right principles, and to be the right man for the present fearful crisis in our country's affairs. We prefer a civilian in the Executive Chair, but if Gen. Hancock can combine all the elements of opposition to destructive, law-defying, revolutionary Radicalism, and can assure us of victory, then he is our candidate. And, although we are, and always have been, an Anti-War Democrat, we will support him, if he should be the choice of the New York Convention, with all the zeal and energy of which we are capable.

The Impeachment Trial.

The Impeachment trial draws to a close. From the beginning we have never had the slightest doubt that the President would be deposed. Not that we believed there was sufficient ground for such a verdict, but because we thought we understood the drift of the movement, from its inception. The testimony was brought to a close on Monday. Gen. Butler made the announcement on the part of the managers, and Mr. Evans did the same on the part of the defence, when all the witnesses were discharged. The court then adjourned until Wednesday, when Mr. Boutwell commenced his argument for the prosecution; previous to which Senator Trumbull offered an order which was adopted, that as many of the managers and of the counsel as may desire, be permitted to file written arguments or address the Senate orally, but the concluding oral argument shall be made by only one manager, as provided in the 21st rule. Mr. Nelson followed Mr. Boutwell for the defense on Thursday.

"THE LEADER."—We have received the first number of this goodly quarto, published in the City of Monuments, in the place of "SOUTHERN SOCIETY." It is beautifully printed, and its columns are racy and readable. But, oh! that horrid frontispiece! Black as the raven's wing, not head of Gorgon was ever more forbidding. Put it away, instant; what perversion of taste, ever to have conceived such a caput for so fair a thing as "THE LEADER."

Chicago has given a Democratic majority at her charter election, of 921. At the last Congressional election, in 1866, the Republican majority was 983. At the election last November, the Radical candidate for County Treasurer, received over four thousand majority. Democratic gain, of over 5,000. Chicago thus gives a most cordial greeting to the National Republican Convention shortly to assemble in that city.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.—Some idea of the large army of office-holders, in this country, and of the immense patronage dispensed to them, may be gathered from a statement compiled at the instance of the impeachment managers, and reported to the Senate on Monday. The aggregate number of officers in the different departments, is given at 41,558, with salaries amounting to \$31,708,756.87.

A letter to the editor of this paper, from a gentleman in St. Mary's county, Md. expresses the opinion that the late cold weather has destroyed the peach crop in that region, where the orchards were in bloom. They are not yet in blossom here, where the season is at least two weeks later than it is in Southern Maryland.

The new constitution has been defeated in Georgia; Gen. Gordon has been elected Governor by a large majority; and what is still more significant, the counties which have the largest negro majorities have gone Democratic.

A letter from Fredericktown, Cecil co. Md. an editorial upon the status of the negro and what shall be done with him, and several other articles, have been deferred until our next.

Read the advertisements. Parties who come to town in search of bargains, would do well to consult beforehand the business columns of the Transcript. See the advertisements.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Amusements.—The citizens of Middletown and vicinity have not lacked amusement, of one kind or another, for a couple of weeks past. First, they had the Wallace Dramatic Company, which played here a couple of nights, with but indifferent success. Second, a lecture in rhyme by Rev. H. L. Howard, amusing and instructive, though but few persons were in attendance. Third, several lectures to Sabbath School children and adults, by Mr. Wm. R. Hunter, Sabbath School Missionary, of North Carolina. Fourth, a lecture on Temperance, last night, under the auspices of the Good Templars, by S. M. Hewlett, "the Little Jersey Gun." And, lastly, Gardner & Kenyon's Circus, to-day. In this medley the tastes of all have doubtless been gratified.

For the benefit of St. Ann's P. E. Sabbath School Library, we are soon to have *Tableaux-Vivants*, now in course of preparation by the ladies, who know so well how to manage such things. This is bound to be a success, for when the soft hand of beauty takes hold of any moral enterprise, like this, it must succeed. Messrs. J. M. Cox & Bro. have kindly tendered the use of their extensive new Show Room for the purpose.

The Kent Rail Road.—We learn that the contract for the construction of the Kent County Rail Road has been signed. This is for that portion of the road between Massey's and Deep Landing. The upper terminus will be fixed at Townsend, unless the friends of the Sassafras, Warwick, and Middletown route, have the ability and the will to furnish \$50,000 in money to bring the road to this point. The friends of this route who reside in Kent, oppose the Townsend terminus, because, as they allege, the guarantee of 6 per cent. to the Delaware Road for constructing the section from Massey's to Townsend, would entail a perpetual tax upon Kent county. They also aver that the subscriptions to the stock of said road obtained from persons residing along the line of the proposed route via Sassafras and Warwick, to Middletown, were based upon the belief that the road would take that direction, and if it should not, they will resist the payment of such subscriptions in all the Courts of the State. So the matter rests, for the present. What further action the friends of this route propose to take, we are not advised.

A Public Benefactor.—Mr. William R. Hunter, Sunday School Missionary, from North Carolina, familiarly known in the South as the "Children's Friend," delivered several lectures in this town, this week, and took up collections in aid of the destitute Sabbath Schools in the South. He labors for the schools of all evangelical churches, making no distinction. He is full of the spirit of his mission, earnest, eloquent, impassioned, having the happy faculty of enchainning the attention of both young and old. He is, literally, like his Divine Master, "going about doing good." Every lecture is a sermon, powerfully impressing his audience, touching the heart and tending to regulate the life; sowing "precious seed," which may some day bring forth, "thirty, sixty, or an hundred fold." We know not that we ever heard his equal, as a lecturer to children. It is his purpose to visit New Castle, next week, after which he may return to Middletown.

Osage Orange hedges are fast taking the place of all other kinds of enclosures, and the time is not far distant when there will be little other fencing in use. It is more hardy, and of a quicker growth than the New Castle Thorn, and makes a more compact, as well as a more sightly hedge. In a recent ride we took between Middletown and Elkton, two weeks ago, the farmers were everywhere busy "laying" their hedges. We didn't get out of sight of the operation, until after we had passed the farm of Squire Black, beyond Glasgow. Orange Quicks have advanced in price to \$5 and \$5.50 per thousand, and every nursery within our knowledge has sold out clean, so brisk has been the demand for them.

The Georgetown, (D. C.) Courier, in chronicling the election of Dr. McCabe to the vacant Rectorship of St. Ann's, says:—"Dr. McCabe carries with him to his new field of labor the prestige of a high literary reputation, and acknowledged ability as a divine and as a chaste, impressive, and eloquent speaker. While we unite in the general regret expressed by the people of Bladensburg at the removal of Dr. McCabe, we must take occasion to congratulate the Episcopalians of Delaware on this accession to the ranks of their ministry."

Several large droves of cattle passed through here, this week, on the way to the upper Delaware marshes, perhaps, where they are fed and fattened in considerable numbers for the city markets.

We invite attention to the advertisement of Mr. Wm. T. Gallaher, Harness Maker, Odessa. Persons in want of a good set of harness, can be supplied by calling on Mr. Gallaher.

The old frame tenements on the site of the proposed Town Hall, were put up at public auction, on Saturday last, and "knocked down," to different bidders, at \$49.00, including the roof of the brick tenement, the bricks of which will be used in the Hall. These old buildings are being removed, to make way for the beautiful new edifice which will shortly adorn the site whereon for so many years they stood, forming a component part of the Middletown of other days.

Mr. Simons, of Philadelphia, will give an exhibition of the American Fire Extinguisher, to test its efficiency in subduing conflagrations, on Tuesday next, at 2 o'clock, p. m. before the Town Commissioners, who, we learn, if satisfied with the apparatus, intend to purchase some of them for the protection of town property against fire.

The attention of merchants and dealers in Coal Oil, is directed to the advertisement of Messrs. Thompson & Co., S. W. corner of 2d and Market streets, Wilmington, Del. which appears in our advertising columns. They guarantee to sell none but the safest and best. Don't run the risk of burning your property by using oil under lawful test.

J. Thos. Budd, Esq. proprietor of the Peninsular Machine Works, in this town, has put a new Cupola in the Foundry connected with that establishment. Mr. B. has a considerable quantity of new agricultural machinery on hand. Farmers may here supply themselves with any kind of machinery required.

Rev. Dr. J. Collins McCabe, officiated at St. Ann's on Sunday last. He will permanently occupy the Rectory on and after the 3d proximo.

Mr. T. N. Naudain has sold to Mr. Thomas Massey, his Lot, extending from Cass to Scott street, 50 feet front, with a depth of 260 feet, for \$1000.

For the Middletown Transcript.

Tableaux Vivants.

The ladies have originated—and are carrying through with their characteristic energy—an enterprise which ought to be of interest to those who have sympathy in the advancement of every good work.

It is proposed to give an exhibition of *Tableaux Vivants*, elaborated with great care and with a display of taste which will warrant a high appreciation on the part of the good people of Middletown and its vicinity. Many of the most beautiful and expressive faces of our ladies will grace the scene, and, in company with members of the sterner sex, will form groups which we doubt not will gratify the taste of a connoisseur. Moreover, that large element in our human nature—the taste for the comic—will not be ignored. While the inspiring strains of music will be present to give life and animation to the occasion, there will be scenes provided for those who delight to unbend the brow of care in the merry laugh. To the man whose blood flows sluggishly as he goes down the hill of life and who is tempted to complain of the monotony of his declining years, we would say, come to this reunion of your friends and acquaintances and rejuvenate amid the innocent festivities and amusements offered by these good ladies. To the young man whose pulse beats high with hope and whose zest for all that is pleasant in life is unabated, we need only say that among the attractions will be "Woman's bright eyes—a dazzling host of eyes of every hue, as Love may chance to raise his black or azure banner in their blaze."

To all—the young and the old, the high and the low, the rich and the poor—we would say lend the aid of your presence and thus encourage the ladies in their endeavors to promote a good cause, and, at the same time, contribute to your entertainment.

It might be allowed to moralize a little, just here, on the great death of amusements in the life of us Americans, and to deprecate the excessive devotion of the powers of mind and body to the pursuits of business, and the eager chase after the "Almighty Dollar," which characterizes our people. We will leave this question till some happy time in the future, when we are attacked by the *cacochæla scindendi*. To return to the *Tableaux*—We will state that the Messrs. Cox have been kind enough to put at the disposal of the ladies the Show Room recently erected at the Carriage Factory. It has been determined to hold the exhibition on Thursday and Friday the 7th and 8th of May.

Refreshments will be dispensed during the evening. It only remains to say that the proceeds will be for the benefit of the Episcopal Sunday School Library.

ALPHA.

ODD-FELLOWS CELEBRATION.—Sunday the 26th instant, being the anniversary of the introduction of the Order of Odd-Fellowship on this continent, Richard Lodge, No. 109, of Hallowtown, Md. propose to hold a Reunion and Festival on Monday the 26th, in the woods adjoining that town. We understand that fifteen lodges from Delaware, and Kent, Queen Ann's, and Caroline counties, are expected to be present and take part in the exercises. The managers are determined to make it the grandest affair of the kind ever seen on the peninsula. A full brass band will be in attendance, and preparations will be made for all the fashionable field and sylvan sports of the day. Addresses will be made by eminent members of the brotherhood from a distance. A handsome dinner and refreshment will be served by the ladies. Shelter will be provided in case of rain during the day, and a pound for the care and feed of horses from a distance. A pleasant time to the Brotherhood may confidently be anticipated.

Letter from Baltimore.

Correspondence of the Middletown Transcript. BALTIMORE, April 20th, 1868.

It is a great compliment to Baltimore when the press of the city of New York begins to call the attention of its readers to the many advantages offered by the Railroads entering that city from the West, over the routes terminating here.

It shows that there is an acknowledged rivalry, or why would the New Yorkers ever stop in their course to cast a glance at the "One Horse Town," as they have so disdainfully, heretofore, called our city. It is true it would be the height of absurdity in the most infatuated Baltimorean to compare the business enterprise, the capital, or commercial prosperity of the two places. Although equal in population to what the great Metropolis was only, comparatively, a few years since, we are several decades behind her in that enterprising spirit, and indomitable "go-ahead-iveness," that is nowhere encountered to such perfection as in the great city of the Knickerbockers.

However, while we Baltimoreans are standing aside gazing at the grandeur, and acknowledging the supremacy of our Opulent Sister, and eating humble-pie, (a lesson we learned to perfection during the War,) the modern Athens has spoken out in our behalf, very much to our surprise, and the Boston Commercial Bulletin gives up a portion of its columns to a eulogy on our Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road, and shows the advantages of that route over any of the numerous Railroads entering New York, for the shipping of Western produce, and not only demonstrates to the Western Cities the undeniable fact of their closer proximity to the Sea-board through Baltimore, but shows to them that freights via Baltimore to Boston are much cheaper than via New York.

It is very apparent why Boston thus pitches into New York. Their fortnightly steamers to Liverpool have been taken off and transferred to New York; the proprietors explaining as their reason "that they were tired of carrying ballast for freight." This has had the effect of making the "Hub of the Universe" quite sore, and consequently they have considerably, and have turned their hatred towards New York, and in looking around for the means of revenge, have suddenly come to the knowledge that Baltimore is something of a town, having advantages of geographical position, and railroad facilities even superior to that city which Boston would fain lead the world to think she rivals.

There's an old proverb that tells us "honest men will get their due," when a certain class of individuals fall out," so, to us it makes no difference if the two cities belabor each other soundly if we derive the benefit of being advertised in the discussion. In fact, we rather prefer it.

Whether we are worthy of the consideration of New York or not, everything must have a beginning, and if ever, in the dim future, we expect to rival the great Metropolis, we cannot begin too soon, and had better "stir our stumps" considerably, for there is a tremendous space before us, (all up hill work too) before we catch up to where she is now, and all this time she is rushing on with lightning speed towards the summit of her greatness.

There is no doubt that an era is dawning upon the Monumental City which promises greater things than have ever fallen to our lot before.

We have now two lines of steamers to Europe, also, lines to Cuba, Charleston, Savannah, and New Orleans.

This speaks well for Baltimore, and shows, if the people will only sustain them, that Baltimore Capitalists are willing to come forward and offer advantages equal to those offered by any of the Atlantic Cities. We thus endeavor to attract towards us the produce of the West, and that of our sister border States, together with the custom of their merchants, and if the poor South ever escapes from the dominion of radicals and negroes and regains her prosperity, we are sure of her patronage, and every dollar that Southern men have to lay out will be spent in our city.

New York was highly amused at our great *post-mortem* over the reception of the officers of the Baltimore, the pioneer steamship of the new Bremen line.

It is true that a dozen such vessels leave the piers of the North River every day, and no one considers it worth noticing, but long heads are at work and we can afford that New York should laugh at our enthusiasm.

The military of the State turn out upon the occasion, a grand parade of civic societies takes place, the correspondents of all the journals in the country naturally refer to the number of militia under arms, and the pageant of the parade. Some of them are horribly scandalized at the amount of gray cloth displayed upon the occasion, and *roar* about it considerably. The natural inquiry all over the country is, what is all this fuss about?—the reception of the pioneer steamer of the Bremen line—and the people begin to examine into the advantages of the line to find why Baltimore should be so jubilant. Thus is gotten up a most extensive advertisement without cost to stockholders, and prime movers. You see we have learned a lesson from the Yankees, and have determined to gain the greatest notoriety at the least cost, and the more we are talked about the better for us.

The notable Sergeant Bates, bearing his flag, arrived here this morning from Washington, and was received at the depot by a detachment of the 7th regiment of the Maryland National Guard and escorted to his hotel, after passing thro' some of the principal streets of the city. Thus you see the rebel Maryland militia have shown more honor to the flag than those consistent gentlemen now seated in the legislative halls of the Capitol; those same gentlemen who howled so vociferously when a sable citizen was turned from the cars running out of Washington, and denounced the claims of Africa's sweet-scented daughter; and who now refuse to permit the flag of the nation to enter within the precincts of the Capitol, for no other reason, I presume,

than because it has been borne by a Democratic Union soldier through the South and had been honored by the inhabitants of that Conquered Province.

The abominable weather we have had, has done a great deal towards injuring the Spring trade. The retailers find comparatively small demand for their goods, and consequently exercise considerable caution in purchasing. As a general thing business is dull, but there are some fortunate exceptions, and we find some houses driving a brisk trade. The whole country, however, must suffer more or less, until things in Washington are settled upon some permanent base. We pray we may not have long to wait, but fear we pray in vain.

Items of News.

Vicksburg papers give some account of a horrible and mysterious butchery committed on Saturday, near Omega, Louisiana. On that day the people of the neighborhood discovered the house of Mr. Henry Keenan to be burning, and on repairing to the spot found that Mrs. Keenan and her two children had been murdered and burned. On further search the body of Mr. Keenan was found about two hundred yards from the house, covered with leaves and bark from the trees with ten bullet holes in his back. There was no living person on the premises.

The bones of an enormous reptile of the lizard family have been received from Kansas by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, to which they have been presented by the discoverer, Dr. Turner. The geologists of the Academy are busy chiselling out the remains from the crystallized gypsum in which they were found imbedded. The back-bone has been cleared of its rocky case, and the vertebra put together, extends in length about thirty feet. With the head and tail it is believed to have been at least fifty feet in length.

General Buchanan, commanding the Fifth Military District, has appointed the 15th of June next as the day for the assembling of the Texas State Convention, to frame a constitution and civil government for the State. The official list of the registered voters in that State, including the revision, fixes the number at 108,799. At the election 56,164 votes were polled—44,689 for the convention, and 11,440 against it. The convention is to assemble in Austin.

The New York Journal of Commerce says: There was exhibited on the Produce Exchange on Friday a number of stalks of winter wheat, grown in Georgia, which are already headed. Judging from these specimens, a portion of the crop will be ready for harvesting in about two weeks.

Wheelan has been committed to trial at the Assize Court, in Ottawa, Canada, for the murder of D'Arcy McGee. He was discovered Saturday in an attempt to escape.

A new machine for navigating the air, invented by a Scotchman, will be brought out under the auspices of the British Aeronautic Society. It is a sort of a bird, with a body fifteen feet in length, and wings stretching out to the width of thirty-five feet. A tail reaches out behind to give direction to the movement, while the wings are flapped by an engine of forty horse power. This, it is thought, can be made to proceed through the air at the rate of forty miles an hour.

The State Department has despatched a special explorer to the Russian Government to explain the exact condition of affairs here relative to the appropriation for the purchase of Alaska, and to request a further extension of time.

A New York paper says:—Money continues to work round to easier points. Currency continues to come in freely from the West, and the banks are comparatively free lenders. Loans on call 6 1/2 per cent; prime paper, 7 1/2 per cent.

Meetings of Liberals are being held all over England. The grievances of the Irish people in general, and the disendowment of all religious sects, are the objects of these meetings.

The London Star announces the serious illness of the Pope, and Victor Emmanuel. His Holiness is suffering from an intestinal complaint, and his Majesty from apoplectic fits.

There is a large immigration this spring from Eastern Massachusetts to Nebraska. Many fishermen from Cape Cod and Nantucket participate in this movement.

In N. York the Legislature has passed a bill empowering railroad conductors to make arrests, and giving them the authority of special policemen, the better to preserve order on their railway trains.

Hon. Robert Toombs, of Georgia, is about to leave for Europe, to attend an important lawsuit in which he is interested.

There has been forty-two snow storms in Boston this winter. Last year it snowed as late as the 24th of April.

It is proposed in the Canadian Parliament to impose a tonnage fee of \$4 on American vessels fishing in Canadian waters.

Charleston, S. C. April 22.—The majority for the new constitution, as far as heard from, is 33,000.

Clement L. Valandigham has bought into the Dayton Ledger, and will be editor-in-chief.

The steamer Arizona, from Aspinwall, brought \$948,000 in treasure to New York Thursday.

On the 1st of May over 500 families will move from N. York to Jersey City, N. J.

The first shipment of green peas was made from Charleston last Wednesday. They were sent to New York.

Yellow fever continues to spread at Calcutta—the deaths averaging thirty daily.

Mrs. "Stonewall" Jackson has received \$15,000 from the sale of the life of her husband.

State Matters.

During the heavy thunder storm on Thursday morning, the dwelling house on the farm near Dover, lately owned by Lester F. Benton, now by Mr. D. L. Rockwell, from Connecticut, was struck by lightning and badly damaged, though none of the inmates received serious injury. Singularly, the house was provided with two lightning rods, which did not seem to protect it. The lightning also struck a fence post on New st, near the residence of Mr. James Byce, shattering it to atoms. Mrs. Byce was stunned by the shock. We learn that a barn and two dwelling houses near Smyrna were set on fire by the lightning and burned.

The *Thursday Herald*, of Saturday says:—On Thursday, Mr. John Truax, living in Raymond's Neck, went out to shoot a bird for a sick child. When night came on, and he did not return, a search was made for him, but owing to the darkness they were unable to find him. On Friday morning he was found dead in the woods with the back of his head shot away by the bursting of his gun. He leaves a wife and two small children to mourn his untimely end. Mr. T. had a policy of \$5000 on his life, in the Knickerbocker.

INTERESTING CASE.—The *Sussex Journal* says:—The negro who murdered young Dickerson, will be tried at the present term of the court. Mr. Cullen has been appointed to defend him. The case is one of more than usual interest; the negro is deaf and dumb, and the question of his responsibility before the law is an interesting and difficult legal proposition. It would be obviously improper at this time to discuss the merits of the case, but we honestly believe that he has a good defence.

LOSS OF A WILMINGTON VESSEL.—A despatch from Key West, Florida, under date of the 18th inst. says:—The schooner Sidney Price, of Wilmington, Del., with a cargo of sugar and molasses, from Xaca, Cuba, for Philadelphia, sprung a leak; crew being unable to keep her free of water ran her ashore at Bahia Honda. The cargo will probably be saved.

We copy the following items from the *Dover Delawarean*, of Saturday:

A little son of Mrs. Elsie Cahoon, of this town, had one of his arms very severely torn and lacerated by a corn sheller, on Monday last.

Mr. Thomas Purinton, (son of Rev. D. B. Purinton, late of this town), is reported among the killed in the fearful railroad accident on the Erie railroad, near Port Jervis, N. Y. last Wednesday morning.

Brevet Major Henry C. Robinson, of Wilmington, committed suicide at New Orleans, Wednesday. He was a captain in the First Infantry, on duty at New Orleans at the time of his death.

The Delaware Dental Association will hold its ninth semi-annual Convention, in Milford, Del. on Thursday, the 14th day of May next, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

NEW CASTLE COUNTIES COURTS.—The Court of Oyer and Terminer and the Superior Court will commence their sessions at New Castle, on the 11th of May.

The laying of the track of the Dorchester and Delaware railroad was commenced at Seaford, Del. on Monday last week.

The Pacific Railroad has climbed to the summit of the Rocky Mountains and begun its descent on the Pacific slope. A dispatch from the chief engineer of the work announces the laying of the rails upon the summit, with befitting ceremonies, on the 16th of April.

DIED.

At Bridgeton, New Jersey, on the 17th inst. Mary Elmer Whiteley, daughter of William G. Whiteley, Esq. of New Castle, Del. in the 23d year of her age.

Near Chesapeake City, Md. on the 20th instant, Mrs. Margaret Longfellow, in the 78th year of her age.

In Wilmington, on the 20th instant, Rachel, wife of Thomas Garrett.

THE MARKETS.

MIDDLETOWN MARKET.	
Wheat, prime red.....	\$2 85
Corn yellow.....	1 15
" white.....	1 10
Oats.....	80¢/85
Timothy Seed.....	4 00
Clover Seed.....	8 50
Butter.....	45¢/50 cts. 1/2 lb
Eggs.....	22 cts 3/4 dozen
Turkeys.....	16¢/20 cts. 1/2 lb
Geese.....	16¢/18 "
Ducks.....	16¢/18 "
Chickens.....	16¢/18 "
Lard.....	15¢/16 "
Hogs.....	10¢/15 "
Beef.....	20¢/25 "
Hams.....	18¢/20 "
Sides.....	14¢/16 "
Shoulders.....	12¢/15 "
Potatoes.....	25¢/30 1/2 bush
WILMINGTON.	
Wheat red.....	\$2 80
Corn.....	1 15
Oats.....	85¢/ 87
Flour.....	\$13 25/13 75
PHILADELPHIA.	
Prime red wheat.....	\$2 80/3 00
Corn, new yellow.....	1 25
Oats.....	86¢/93

MISLER'S HERB BITTERS.

Has cured more Diseases in communities where it is known, than all other Medicines combined; and is kept in every Family. It is the Only Remedy that Really Purifies the Blood, and has never failed in curing Dyspepsia and Kidney Affections. As a general remedy to build up a shattered and broken down constitution, nothing can equal it.

Sold by all Druggists and Dealers. *Misler's* Original Herb Bitters, is a specific for Scrofula, Old Running Sores, and Rheumatism. Sold everywhere. Jan 18—3m

HARNESS MAKING.

THE undersigned having commenced Harness making at

ODESSA, DEL.

Is prepared to furnish every article in his line on the most reasonable terms.

His experience in city and country justifies his promise that

ALL HIS WORK WILL BE OF THE

BEST QUALITY.

And gives him confidence to solicit a share of the public patronage. His Shop is on Main street, in the house formerly occupied by Joseph Tawney. WM. T. GALLAHER.

April 25—tf.

TO FARMERS

RODONDA GUANO!!

The Cheapest and Best Fertilizer in the Country!

THE RODONDA Guano is not a mineral phosphate, requiring the action of Sulphuric Acid to render it soluble; its great power as a fertilizer is in its entire solubility without the aid of acid. It is not a "Manipulation" or Compound of Fish or Flesh with Mineral Phosphates, the regularity of which is always uncertain and dependent upon and controlled by the honesty of the manufacturer. The Rodonda is a Pure Natural Guano, the large percentage of organic matter sufficiently attests, as fine as flour, and sold to consumers in the very condition as imported, and avoids the risk of large loss frequently incurred by failures of the crops in the purchase of high priced fertilizers.

The price of the Rodonda Guano is not the least unimportant in these days of agricultural competition and pecuniary embarrassment. The Very Low Price at which it can be sold places it within the reach of every farmer, and avoids the risk of large loss frequently incurred by failures of the crops in the purchase of high priced fertilizers.

The results of its use during the past year are most gratifying, as attested by the Certificates of the most Intelligent Farmers of our State, from which we select the following:

Baltimore, January 18, 1868.  
"I have used your Rodonda Guano on my farm in Harford county last year in the same proportion as Peruvian mixed with Ground Bone on my Potato ground side by side. I found that the Potatoes were equally as good a crop on the portion of the ground where I used the Rodonda as where I used the Peruvian. I take pleasure in recommending it to the farmers as a good fertilizer."  
JAMES WARDEN.

Anne Arundel Co. Md. January 1, 1868.  
"I received the Rodonda Guano shipped me last May, which I gave a fair trial on my tobacco crop, at the rate of about 250 pounds to the acre, applying it in the hill. In noting its effects, I found where the Guano was used the tobacco made a quicker start, growing much faster, ripening about two weeks earlier, and producing at least twenty per cent. more to the acre than that planted alongside, on the same day, where the land had been well manured with barn-yard manure. I am so well pleased with the result that I intend using it again."  
HENRY OWINGS.

Cedar Hill, Harford Co. Md. Sept. 27, 1867.  
"I used three tons of Rodonda Guano on corn last spring, side and side



## The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,  
BY HENRY VANDERFORD.  
Office corner Main and Scott streets, over  
D. L. Dunning's Book and Variety Store.

TERMS.—\$2.00 per annum, payable in advance.  
Single copies five cents.

ADVERTISING RATES.—One square of ten lines,  
for the first insertion and 25 cents for each  
subsequent insertion. One square one year \$10;  
six months \$6. For a quarter of a column three  
months \$3; six months \$5; one year, with the  
privilege of four changes, \$25; for half a column  
\$30. Fractions of a square to be counted as a  
square. When the number of insertions is not  
marked, advertisements will be continued until  
forbidden, and charged accordingly. Obituaries  
published at advertising rates; Marriages and  
Deaths inserted free. Yearly advertisers must  
send their advertisements to their own business.  
All letters should be addressed to THE  
MIDDLETOWN TRANSCRIPT, Middletown, Del.

## NEW GOODS.

Spring and Summer Opening!!

### J. A. Reynolds & Sons

HAVING replenished our stock with a large  
and complete assortment of Spring and  
Summer Goods, we are now enabled to offer  
extra inducements to the people of Middletown  
and vicinity, as the following list of prices of  
some of our leading articles will show.  
Calicoes at 10, 12 1/2 and 14 cents per yard.  
B'd Muslin 10 1/2, 15, 20 and 25 " "  
Unbleached 10 1/2, 14, 16 and 20 " "  
5-4 Pillow Case 25, 30, 32, 34 and 36 " "  
Am' and Russian Crash, 12 1/2, 15, and 18 " "  
American Ginghams 12 1/2, 15, and 20 " "  
Tickings 25, 35, and 45 " "

### DRESS GOODS.

American Lawns 20, 22 and 25 " per yard.  
Jacquet do 31, 37 1/2, and 45 " "  
Plaid and Fig. Cambrics 22, 25 and 31 " "  
American Delains 20, 22 and 25 " "  
All Wool do 37 1/2, 45, and 50 " "  
Black and Colored Alpaca 50 to 90 " "  
Silk-Mixed and all Wool Poplins 75 to 1.25 " "

### Coatings and Cassimeres.

A splendid stock of 6-4 Coatings and Clon-  
ing, consisting of Tricots, Piques, Doe-Shees,  
etc., in Black and Fancy Colors, ranging in  
price from \$1.50 to \$6.00 per yard.  
Fancy Cassimeres for Pants and Vest 90, \$1.25,  
\$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00 per yard.

### NOTIONS, &c.

Spool Cotton 5, 8 and 10 cts per spool.  
Knitting do 6 1/2, 7 1/2, and 8 1/2 " "  
Linen Hdk's 10, 12 1/2, 18, 25 and 35 cts each.  
Ladies, Misses, and Children's White Cotton  
Hose a 12 1/2, 15, 25, 37 1/2 and 50 cents per pair.  
Ladies and Misses Hoop Skirts a 50, 75, \$1.00  
\$1.25, \$1.50 each.

### BOOTS AND SHOES.

Ladies' Lasting Gaiters a \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00  
and \$2.50 per pair.  
Misses' Lasting Gaiters a \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50  
and \$1.75 per pair.  
Gents' and Boys' Lasting Gaiters a \$2.00, \$2.50,  
\$3.00 and \$3.50 per pair.  
Gents' Calf Boots \$5.00, \$5.50 and \$6.00 per  
pair.

### GROCERIES.

Brown and White Sugars at 12 1/2, 14, 15, 16,  
17, and 18 cents per lb.  
Laguayra and Rio Coffee 25, 28, and 31 cts.  
per lb.  
Green and Black Tea \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and  
\$2.00 per lb.  
Brown and White Soaps at 6, 8 and 10 cents  
per lb.  
Molasses at 50, 62 1/2, 75 and 95 cts. per gallon.  
Please call and examine!  
JOHN A. REYNOLDS & SONS.  
April 25, 1868.

### COAL OIL.

### COAL OIL.

THE CHEAPEST and BEST, and  
for illuminating  
purposes in the market.

### WE GUARANTEE IT

TO BE

ALL THAT IS REPRESENTED,

AND

AT LESS COST TO DEALERS,

THAN CAN BE PURCHASED

IN THIS or the Philadelphia Market.

GIVE US A CALL.

### Thompson & Co.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in COAL OIL,  
LARD SPERM WHOLE OILS,  
S. W. Corner of 2d and Market Streets,  
WILMINGTON, Del.

### MERCHANTS

Who desire to keep and sell a safe and reliable  
Burning Oil, at less cost than can be purchased  
elsewhere, would do well to call or communicate  
with

### Thompson & Co.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Burning Oil,  
Lubricating Oil, Turpentine, &c.  
S. W. Corner of 2d and Market Streets,  
WILMINGTON, Del.

April 25-ly.

### Excelsior Reaper & Mower.

New Yorker Reaper & Mower.

Little Giant Reaper & Mower.

Woods' Reaper & Mower.

STONER STEEL TOOTH RAKE.

Westinghouse Threshing Machine.

For Sale at the Agricultural Warehouse of  
E. T. EVANS,  
Middletown, Del.

10,000 SALMON BRICKS,  
10,000 Red Bricks,  
20,000 Hard Bricks.

FOR SALE BY  
E. T. EVANS,  
Middletown, Del.

Notice to Parents.

PARENTS of School District No. 60, will please  
take notice that on and after Monday, April  
20, 1868, the Teacher will keep a Record of the  
attendance, recitations, and general conduct of  
each Scholar, and will report monthly to the  
Commissioners, who will publish the same by  
notice at the Post Office. Also, a quarterly report  
will be published in the Transcript, at the close  
of each quarter.  
By order of the Commissioners,  
April 25-31 J. H. SCOWDRICK, Clerk.

## CARRIAGES!

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## Delaware Rail Road Line.

## Summer Arrangement.

On and after SUNDAY, April 12th, 1868,  
Passenger Trains will run as follows, until  
further notice:  
Train leaving Crisfield 2.45 A. M. will run  
every morning, except Monday. All other  
Trains Sundays excepted.

## NORTH.

Leave Crisfield, 2.45 A. M. 7.30 A. M.  
" Marion, 8.20 " 8.50 "  
" Kingston, 8.45 " 9.15 "  
" Westover, 8.55 " 9.25 "  
" Prin. Anne, 9.30 " 10.00 "  
" Eden, 9.45 " 10.15 "  
" Forktown, 10.05 " 10.35 "  
" Salisbury 4.05 " 10.35 "  
" Delmar, 10.45 " 11.15 "  
" Laurel, 11.05 " 11.35 "  
" Seaford, 11.25 " 11.55 "  
" Bridgeville 5.00 " 12.00 "  
" Greenwood, 12.00 " 12.30 "  
" Farmington, 12.15 " 12.45 "  
" Harrington 5.30 7.00 A. M. 12.55 "  
" Felton, 7.15 " 12.55 "  
" Plymouth, 7.20 " 1.00 "  
" Canterbury, 7.20 " 1.00 "  
" Wil. Grove, 7.25 " 1.05 "  
" Camden, 7.35 " 1.15 "  
" Dover, 6.05 " 1.30 "  
" Moorton, 8.05 " 1.45 "  
" Brenford, 8.10 " 1.55 "  
" Smyrna, 8.05 " 1.50 "  
" Clayton, 6.30 " 2.05 "  
" Sassafras R'd, 8.25 " 2.10 "  
" Blackbird, 8.35 " 2.20 "  
" Townsend, 8.40 " 2.30 "  
" Middletons, 7.05 " 2.45 "  
" Mt Pleasant, 9.10 " 2.55 "  
" St Georges, 9.25 " 3.10 "  
" Bear, 9.35 " 3.25 "  
" New Castle 7.45 9.55 " 3.40 "  
" Arrive Wilm. 8.02 A. M. 10.15 A. M. 12.50 P. M.  
" Philad'a 9.30 " 11.45 A. M. 5.40 P. M.  
" Baltimore 1.15 P. M. 1.15 P. M. 8.00 "

## SOUTH.

Leave Philad'a 8.30 A. M. 3.30 P. M. 5.00 P. M.  
" Baltimore 7.25 " 2.15 " 2.15 "  
" Wilm. 10.10 " 5.05 " 6.30 "  
" New Castle 10.20 " 5.25 " 6.50 "  
" Bear, 10.50 " 7.15 "  
" St Georges 11.00 " 7.30 "  
" Mt Pleasant 11.15 " 7.40 "  
" Middletons 11.35 " 8.00 "  
" Townsend 11.45 " 8.10 "  
" Blackbird 11.50 " 8.15 "  
" Sassafras 12.00 " 8.25 "  
" Clayton 12.05 P. M. 8.40 "  
" Arrive Crisfield 12.15 " 8.50 "  
" Moorton 12.20 " 9.05 "  
" Dover 12.30 " 9.15 "  
" Camden 12.50 " 9.30 "  
" Wil. Grove 1.05 " 9.40 "  
" Canterbury 1.10 " 9.50 "  
" Plymouth 1.10 " 9.50 "  
" Felton 1.20 " 9.55 "  
" Farmington 1.40 " 10.15 "  
" Greenwood 2.05 " 10.20 "  
" Bridgeville 2.15 " 10.30 "  
" Seaford 2.25 " 10.40 "  
" Laurel 2.35 " 10.55 "  
" Delmar 3.10 " 11.10 "  
" Salisbury 3.40 " 11.30 "  
" Forktown 4.00 " 11.50 "  
" Eden 4.15 " 12.05 "  
" Prin. Anne 4.50 " 12.10 "  
" Westover 5.10 " 12.10 "  
" Kingston 5.30 " 12.30 "  
" Marion 5.45 " 12.45 "  
" Arrive Crisfield 6.05 P. M. 10.45 P. M.

NEW CASTLE TRAINS.—Leave New Castle for  
Wilmington and Philadelphia at 12.05 P. M.,  
and on Mondays at 7.45 A. M. Leave Philadel-  
phia 12.00 M. and Wilmington 1.15 P. M. for  
New Castle.

SMYRNA BRANCH TRAINS.—Additional to those  
above leave Smyrna for Clayton 11.45 A. M.,  
6.15 and 8.10 P. M. Leave Clayton for Smyrna,  
8.40 A. M. and 2.10 P. M. to make connection  
with trains to and from Dover, and Stations  
South. Also, train will leave Smyrna at 6.15  
A. M. Sundays and Mondays excepted, to con-  
nect with express, and return leaving Clayton  
at 8.45 A. M.

Trains leaving Crisfield at 2.45 A. M. and  
Wilmington going South at 5.05 P. M. will run  
in connection with Steamboats to Norfolk  
and Portsmouth and Express Trains to and from  
Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. They  
will stop at the Delaware Railroad Line only at  
principal stations at which their time is stated.  
Except that Steamboat Train South will let off  
passengers from Baltimore at any station to which  
they have tickets.

E. Q. SEWELL,  
Superintendent Delaware R. R.

April 18-ly Middletown.

## Whann's Super Phosphate,

## REHODES' SUPER PHOSPHATE,

## Moro Phillips' Super Phosphate.

## Crossland's Super Phosphate,

## HEWES' SUPER PHOSPHATE,

## COE'S SUPER PHOSPHATE,

## BAUGH'S RAW BONE PHOSPHATE,

## BAUGH'S CHICAGO BONE,

## BERGER & BUTZ,

## PERUVIAN GUANO,

## PACIFIC GUANO,

## RODUNDA GUANO.

## SCHUYLKILL LIME,

## WRIGHTSVILLE LIME,

## CHESTER VALLEY LIME.

## LODI POUDETTE.

## FOR SALE BY E. T. EVANS.

## AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

I hereby give notice that I will attend, for  
the purpose of settling with the SCHOOL COM-  
MITTEES of the respective counties as follows:  
At Georgetown, Sussex County, on the 13th,  
14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th days of April.  
At Dover, Kent County, on the 27th, 28th,  
29th and 30th days of April.  
At New Castle, New Castle County, on the  
11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th days of May.  
To avoid confusion and the detention of Com-  
mittees over one day, settlements will be made  
with the districts in the following order:  
For Sussex County.—April 13th, Nos. 1 to  
30, inclusive; April 14th, 31 to 60, inclusive;  
April 15th, 61 to 90, inclusive; April 16th,  
Nos. 91 to 120, inclusive; April 17th, Nos. 121  
and upwards.  
For Kent County.—April 27th, Nos. 1 to 30,  
inclusive; April 28th, Nos. 31 to 60, inclusive;  
April 29th, Nos. 61 to 90, inclusive; April 30th,  
Nos. 91 and upwards.  
For New Castle County.—May 11th, Nos. 1  
to 30, inclusive; May 12th, Nos. 31 to 60, inclu-  
sive; May 13th, Nos. 61 to 90, inclusive.  
ROBERT LAMIDEN,  
Auditor of Accounts.

## MIDDLETOWN IRON FOUNDRY

## AND

## MACHINE SHOP.

PLOWS and Plow Castings, Machine Castings  
of all kinds on hand or made to order.  
Particular attention given to Repairing Machi-  
nery. Cash for old iron.

WM. L. BUCKE & SON,  
Founders and Machinists.

April 4-ly

## TO RENT.

A FIRST CLASS STORE HOUSE, in Freder-  
icktown. Apply to Mrs. C. J. Osborne,  
April 4-31 Post Office, Cecil, Md.

## W. M. KENNARD,

## OF THE WELL KNOWN

## DRY GOODS AND CARPET HOUSE,

306 Market Street, Wilmington.

offers to the buying public one of the most desir-  
able assortment of

## GOODS

ever displayed by this old established house.

Paying for CASH, selling on the same terms.

## Purchasing from first Hands,

AS WELL AS

Importing some Styles of Goods,

all combined, gives him many advantages not  
usual with retail stores.

## A LARGE STOCK,

## PLENTY OF LIGHT,

No Misrepresentation of Goods,

AND LOW PRICES

are SOME of the inducements held forth  
to buyers.

January 4, 1868-Gu.

## 628 HOOP SKIRTS. 628

WILLIAM T. HOPKIN'S "own make" o  
"Keystone Skirts," are the best and cheap-  
est Low Priced Hoop Skirts in the market. Trail  
Skirts, 25 springs, \$1.00; 30 springs, \$1.20; and  
40 springs, \$1.45. Plain Skirts, 6 tapes, 20 springs,  
80 cents; 25 springs, 95 cents; 30 springs, \$1.15;  
and 35 springs, \$1.25. Warranted in every respect.  
Our own make of Union Skirts, Eleven Tape  
Trails, from 20 to 50 springs, \$1.20 to \$2.50.  
Plain, Six Tapes, 20 to 50 springs, from 95 cents  
to \$2.00. These Skirts are better than those sold  
by other establishments as first class goods, and at  
much lower prices.

Our own make of Champion Skirts are in every  
way superior to all other Hoop Skirts worn by the  
public, and only have to be examined or worn to  
convince every one of the fact. Manufactured of  
the best linen-finished English Steel Springs,  
very superior tapes, and the style of the metallic  
fastenings and manner of securing them surpass  
for durability and excellence any other Skirt in  
this country, and are lighter, more elastic, will  
wear longer, give more satisfaction, and are real-  
ly cheaper than all others. Every lady should  
try them. They are being sold extensively by  
Merchants throughout the country and the adjoining  
states, at very moderate prices. If you want the  
best, ask for "Hopkin's Champion Skirt." If  
you do not find them, get the merchant with  
whom you deal to order them from the date of some  
or send direct to us. Merchants will find our  
different grades of Skirts exactly what they need,  
and we especially invite them to call and examine  
our extensive assortment, or send for Wholesale  
Price List.

To be had at Retail at Manufacture, and of the  
Retail Trade generally, and at Wholesale of the  
Manufacturer only, to whom all orders should be  
addressed. Manufacture and Salesrooms, 628  
ARCH STREET, between 6th and 7th streets,  
Philadelphia.  
March 14-4m

## REGISTER'S OFFICE.

New Castle County, March 9th, 1868.  
Upon the application of James Ginn, and Wil-  
liam S. Cleaver, Administrators of William Ginn,  
late of Appoquinimink Hundred, it is said county,  
deceased; it is ordered and directed by the Reg-  
ister that the Administrators aforesaid, give notice  
of the granting of Letters of Administration upon  
the Estate of the deceased, with the date of grant-  
ing thereof, by causing advertisements to be  
inserted in the daily papers of the date of some  
case made and provided. And also cause the same  
to be inserted within the same period in the  
MIDDLETOWN TRANSCRIPT, a newspaper published  
in Middletown, and to be continued therein two  
months.

Given under the hand and Seal of of-  
fice of the Register aforesaid, at New  
Castle, in New Castle County aforesaid, the  
day and year above written.



## Select Poetry.

### Kisses.

There's a formal kiss of fashion  
And a burning kiss of passion,  
A father's kiss,  
A mother's kiss,  
And a sister's kiss to move;  
There's a traitor's kiss for gold,  
Like a serpent's deadly fold,  
A first kiss,  
A stolen kiss,  
And the thrilling kiss of love:  
A meeting kiss,  
A maiden kiss,  
A kiss when fond hearts sever,  
But the saddest kiss  
On earth is this—  
A kiss to part forever.

## Our Correspondence.

Another Letter from Millington.  
Correspondence of the Middletown Transcript.

MILLINGTON, March, 1868.

MR. EDITOR:—Just imagine a mother dressing up her baby for public inspection—thinking in the depths of her fond heart that it is the greatest piece of perfection in the shape of a baby that ever was seen, and then hearing some one say—"if you can imagine all that, you can sympathize with your unfortunate correspondent."

"Oh! my life in Egypt,"  
not  
"Oh! the dalliance and the wit,"  
But oh! the wrath and vent of it; and in fact I thought it was just about what I deserved, and could abuse myself with the best of them—but, though man may call himself a fool, he don't want any one else to do it.

Faith tho' there's one lot gone!—to a disciple of Esculapius. The serpent and mace are taking the lead in this place. We have enjoyed unparalleled health of late, and if there is not soon a change for the better (or worse) our numerous M. D.'s will have to devour each other.

I hope Millington will build itself up, or sell itself out, shortly—and then we'll be what we ought to be—what we have a right to be.

Here, in the Spring, the Yellow Neds come up, and the water comes down, and we are almost drowned out. We have got some tiling, however, and the gentlemen turn out on occasion and show the water the way into it.

Oh! the snow, the hail, and the rain! March has clasped hands with February, over a tiny slip of sunshine, and each seems to be trying to get the mastery; and in the mean time we are the victims of the strife.

One of these days will come the bright sunshine and the warm south wind, and Mr. March will have to wrap himself in his mantle and settle off (without waiting for the Rail Road, as most of us are doing,) and make room for sweet Miss April, all smiles and tears. But, comrades beware; neither her smiles nor her tears are apt to be from the heart.

"I know a maiden fair to see;  
Beware, oh beware!  
She can both false and friendly be,  
Take care, oh! take care!"

And just as you are beginning to bask in her sunny rays she will give you a cold gleam from her blue eyes, and shake the snow-flakes over your hearts till you are fairly benumbed, and then she'll get up a smile again and thaw you out, but don't trust her; wait for the bright, beautiful, glorious June, ere you yield up your affection, and verily you'll be rewarded, for she's ever warm and true; "too innocent for coquetry, too fond for idle scolding. Alas! sometimes the lightest heart, I fear makes heaviest mourning."

Days have past—the "lot" has now the frame of a building on it—hailed from somewhere and put up in no time, with a most Yankee-like celerity. Our up-town lots are being limed and drained. Our down-town lots are being negotiated for. Our Engineers have taken in one stove-pipe, furred hat and all—though two still loom in gloomy ferocity from each end of the office. I hear the ladies have come to the conclusion that the corps, fearing a second assault from the "Hooped Brigade," (it is Leap-year you know) fortified their quarters. Wooden gans have won the day before now, if you remember, Mr. Editor. We hope, however, the bristling semblances will soon doff their hats, make their best bow to the public, and retire into privacy and seclusion, and by the time winter comes again we will have some other way of carrying off the surplus gasses; for who ever heard of a fire deterred, or even deferred, by any proceeding so very absurd, as building a house without any chimney. I once heard of a man who kept himself warm all winter on one stick of wood—by carrying it to the top of the house, throwing it down, and running after it. For a gentleman of leisure that night answer, but for Rail Road men, I presume, "it would not pay."

I must not neglect to mention the rest of the improvements. A pleasant dwelling on Sassafras street is being ornamented by a nicely laid out flower garden and evergreen trees, and another by a neat paling, in place of the shocking fence, that, thanks to our marble-playing boys, has been sat upon, till there was nothing left of it. Apropos of the boys, I think there ought to be seats fixed for their accommodation: Roaming the streets seems to be their principal occupation, and the only wonder to me, is, that by night they have a leg left to stand upon. Let us have some attention paid to their comfort and well-being, since on the rising generation rest the hopes of a mighty nation, and alas! "Facilis descensus Avernus."

Some of our bright-eyed lasses are getting up a croquet club; success to them, say I, and on the great play-ground of life that they may rout their adversaries, croquet their rivals, pass easily through the wickets and reach the winning-post at last, is the wish of one who is very sincerely their friend.

Base-ball has not yet been resumed, but I have no doubt that ere long the air will resound with the shouts of the victorious players: It is a fine game, but open to one objection; people have not generally more teeth or fingers than are necessary for their daily use, and I have heard that a hotly contested game is apt to leave some

unfortunate minus one or more of those useful appendages.  
Our Rail Road is advancing slowly. It is curious to observe how soon the horses have become trained to their work. The carts are loaded, and the animals move off with them of their own accord, proceed to the unloading place and retrace their steps without guide or driver.

My letter must now be brought to a close, since it is very sure, if I've no more to say I can't say any more.  
Very Respectfully Your Friend,  
FAMA.

### A Floating City.

One of the most wonderful cities in the world is Bangkok, the capital of Siam. Did you ever witness such a sight in your life? On either side of the wide, majestic stream, moored in regular streets and alleys, extending as far as the eye can reach, are upwards of 70,000 neat little houses, each house floating on a compact raft of bamboo, and the whole intermediate space of the river presents to our astonished gaze one dense mass of ships, junks and boats of every conceivable shape, color, and size. As we glide amongst these we occasionally encounter a stray house broken loose from its moorings and hurrying down the stream with the tide, amidst the uproar and shouts of the inhabitants and all the spectators. We also noticed that all the front row of houses are neatly painted shops, in which various tempting commodities are exposed for sale; behind these again, at equal distances, rise the lofty, elegant porcelain towers of the various wats and temples. On our right hand side, as far as we can see, are three stately pillars, erected to the memory of three defunct kings, celebrated for some acts of valor and justice; and a little beyond these, looming like a line of battle ships among a lot of cockle shells, rises the straggling and not very elegant palace of the king, where his Siamese majesty, with ever so many wives and children, resides.

Right ahead, where the city terminates, and the river, making a curve, flows behind the palace, is a neat looking fort, surmounted with a top of mango tree, over which peep the roofs of two houses and a flagstaff, from which floats the royal pennant and jack of Siam—a flag of red groundwork, with a white elephant worked in the centre. This is the fort and palace of the Prince Chou Fan King Siam, and one of the most extraordinary and intellectual men in the East. Of him, however, we shall see and hear more after we have bumbled our traps on shore and taken a little rest. Now be careful how you step out of the boat into the balcony of the floating house, for it will recede to the force of your effort to mount, and if not aware of this, you lose your balance and fall into the river. Now we are safely transhipped, for we cannot as yet sail; but we now form an idea, though a very small one, of the vast population of the city of Bangkok.

We take a brief survey of our present apartments, and find everything, though inconveniently small, clean, and in other respects comfortable. First, we have a little balcony that overhangs the river, and is about twenty yards long by one and a half broad. Then we have an excellent sitting-room, which serves us for a parlor, dining-room and all; then we have a little side room for books and writing; and behind these, extending the length of the other two, a bed-room. Of course we must bring or make our own furniture; for though these houses are pretty well off, on this score the Siamese have seldom any thing besides their bedding materials, a few pots and pans to cook with, a few jars of stores, and a fishing-net or two. Every house has a canoe attached to it, and no nation detests walking so much as the Siamese; at the same time they are all expert swimmers, and both men and women begin to acquire this very necessary art at a very early age. Without it a man runs a momentary risk of being drowned, as, when a canoe upsets, none of the passengers by ever think it necessary to lend any aid, supposing them fully adequate to the task of saving their own lives. Canoes are hourly being upset, owing to the vast concourse of vessels and boats plying to and fro; and owing to this negligence or carelessness in rendering assistance, a Mr. Benham, an American missionary, lost his life some twelve years ago, having used his canoe when it was just getting dusk, and though surrounded by boats, no one deemed it necessary to stop and pick the poor man up.

### Secrets of Magic.

Robert Houdin concludes his memoirs with a chapter of miracles, which he explained. The Alibona cat pounded glass. Houdin powdered some for himself and ate it, and he avers that his appetite for dinner was improved by the dose. They walked on red-hot iron with bare feet, and passed their tongues over white-hot plates of iron. Prof. Semirici discovered that by rubbing into the skin a solution of alum evaporated to a spongy state, it was rendered insensible to the action of red-hot iron. He rubbed himself with soap, and found that even the hair did not burn. He rubbed the alum into his tongue, and lapped the glowing metallic surface without pain. Houdin himself then tried passing his hands, slightly dampened, through a stream of molten iron and found, as others have done, that it left no scar on him. An English conjuror used to thrust a sword through his body, shove a knife up either nostril to the handle, and then spitted upon a song. Houdin bought the secret of the invulnerable, and now divulges it. The performer was very thin. With a waist belt he bound his tender paunch tight down upon the cerebral column, substituted a card-board stomach for the suppressed part, covered all with flesh-covered tights; between the true and false abdomen he fastened a scabbard, covered the apertures on the side with rosettes, placed a sponge filled with some red liquid in the scabbard and there thrust his sword which came out covered with bogus blood, of course. The pug-nosed mountebank enjoyed a physical conformation which permitted the delicate and delightful performance.

Virtue, like the sun, brightens every object on which it shines.

## BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND VARIETY STORE.

SCHOOL BOOKS and Miscellaneous Works, Bibles, Prayer Books and Hymn Books, BLANK BOOKS, in various styles of binding. Tuck, Memorandum and Pass Books.

Stationery of all kinds. Photograph Albums, Work Boxes, Fancy Boxes, Writing Desks, Ladies' Satchels, Pocket Books, Port Folios, Purse, Portemonnaies, Segar Cases, Picture Frames, Tassels and Cords, Looking Glasses.

Back Gammon Boards, CHESS & CHECKER MEN, GAMES OF ALL KINDS.

Rubber Pencils and Penholders, Writing Fluid Ink Stands, Pocket Cutlery, Rogers' Scissors, Smead Buttons, Studs, Breast Pins, Finger Rings, Spectacles, Violin Strings, Combs, Brushes, Nail and Tooth Brushes, Gum Bands, Watch Keys, Key Rings, and Puff Boxes.

A Fine Assortment of Colgate & Co's Soap. PHALON'S NIGHT-BLOOMING CERUEUS, Wright's and Taylor's Superior Extracts, Pomades, Hair Oils, and Dental Soap, of the first quality.

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS. Neck Ties of various styles, Biemarck Collars, Gloves, Hose, Handkerchiefs, Cuffs, Wristlets, &c. &c.

Segars, Tobacco Pipes, Meerschaums, and Tobacco Pouches. Lamps, Lamp Chimneys, Wicks and Coal Oil.

DEALER IN NEWSPAPERS—New York Ledger, Harper's Weekly, Bazaar and Magazine, Frank Leslie, Chimney Corner, Weekly, Boys and Girls Weekly, Gleason's Literary Companion.

Godey's, Peterson's, Atlantic, Arthur's, Galaxy and Mun's, Demorest's Magazines. A large variety of Fancy Articles. Call and examine, at D. L. DUNNING'S, Corner of Main and Scott streets, Middletown, Del. Jan. 4—3mo.

## POPULAR GOODS.

### POPULAR PRICES.

HAVING completed our arrangements for the following year, we are now prepared to offer great advantages to our friends and the public in general in the assortment and prices of our usual large line of well selected Goods, consisting in part as follows:

NEW YORK MILLS, WAMSUTTA, WILLIAMSVILLE & AMOSKEAG FINE BLEACHED SHIRTINGS.

Utica 5-4 and 10-4 Bleached Sheetings. Atlantic A, New Market R. R. Pacific and Salmon Falls Heavy Brown Shirtings.

Pocasset 40 inch, and Indian Head 6-4 Brown Sheetings. Merrimac, Cochoeco, American, Sprague, Oriental, Richmond and Conestoga Prints; besides a full assortment of the best makes American Printed Delaines.

A few pieces of these EXTRA HEAVY KERSEYS at the old price.

An unusually large and attractive stock of DRESS GOODS,

Alpacas, Cloths, Cassimeres, Hosiery, Linens, White Goods, Shawls, Flannels, Notions, Balloons, Skirts, Gents' Furnishing Goods, &c. &c.

BOOTS AND SHOES. Gentlemen's Calf Boots and Over Shoes, Men's and Boys' Extra Heavy Leather Boots and Brogans, Ladies, Misses and Children's Ballerinas and Over Shoes.

A Full Assortment of Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Queensware, Woodenware, Stoneware, Earthenware, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Window Glass, Paint Brushes, &c. All of which we offer at the very lowest market rates, and cordially invite all to call and examine for themselves before purchasing elsewhere, as it is no trouble whatever to show our goods.

The credit system having been recently reduced among the Wholesale Merchants and Jobbers of this city, we have a cash basis, our terms hereafter will be SIX MONTHS CREDIT, OR FIVE PER CENT OFF FOR CASH ON ALL SUMS OVER \$1.

JOHN A. REYNOLDS & SONS, February 8 Middletown.

## TO THE READERS

The Middletown Transcript.

A WELL KNOWN wit once said: Clothes do not make the man, but they do very much to make him look respectable after he is made. Men are always apt to judge others by their external appearance, and justly so, for neatness of person is one of the most important qualifications of a man as a high sense of honor or unquestionable veracity; in this view, therefore, it behooves every man not only to procure good clothing but to have it made in the most elegant and fashionable shape, and we know of no establishment in town which better insures these desirable qualities than

WILDES' STAR CLOTHING HALL, Main Street, Middletown, Del.

N. B.—Cloths, Cassimeres and Vestings kept constantly on hand and made to order. January 25—m

## GOLD MEDAL PIANOS AND PARLOR ORGANS.

STIEFF'S PIANOS.—THE BEST NOW MADE.

GOLD MEDAL for the best Pianos manufactured has been awarded for the year 1867, to CHAS. H. M. STIEFF, of Baltimore, and pronounced by the best Professors in Baltimore and the BEST PIANOS, and were in competition with Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York Pianos. Stieff's Pianos contain improvements that are not to be found in other instruments, and are all made at his extensive Factory and out of the best seasoned material, and warranted for five years.

Call and examine for yourselves. They are sold at lower prices than any other house. SECOND HAND PIANOS from \$50 to \$300. Also, PARLOR ORGANS for sale cheap.

STIEFF'S, No. 7 North Liberty Street, Baltimore. January 4, 1868.

## FRANCIS TARONI

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public generally, that he has recently located on the north-east corner of Broad and Lake streets, Middletown, and is prepared to do all kinds of

House and Sign Painting, Graining, China Glossing, Calceining, Paper Hanging, &c.

All work done with neatness and despatch. He invites the public to give him a call, as he flatters himself that he will be able give satisfaction to all who favor him with their custom. All orders will be thankfully received and promptly attended to. January 11—6m

## NOTICE.

THE Stockholders of the Middletown Hall Co. are hereby notified that an installment of One Dollar per share upon the Capital Stock, will be due and payable to John R. Hall, Treasurer, on Monday, May 4th, 1868.

By order of the Board. J. THOS. BUDD, Sec. March 21.

## LUMBER. LUMBER.

THE subscribers offer to the citizens of Middletown and surrounding country their thanks for the very liberal patronage they have received, and embrace this medium in announcing to all builders and contractors and those in want of Lumber, that they are prepared to supply them on the most liberal terms. We have reduced our price, as the market has declined, and we think that they will compare with the city prices. Our stock is very large, embracing a full assortment of

SPRUCE, HEMLOCK, AND OAK FRAMING STUFF, ALL SIZES.

WHITE PINE BOARDS, HEMLOCK " OAK PLANK, WHITE PINE DO.

WHITE PINE SIDING, YELLOW PINE FLOORING, HEMLOCK " PLASTERING LATHES.

SPRUCE AND CYPRESS SHINGLES, PLAIN AND FANCY PICKETING, SASH, DOORS AND BLINDS.

Building Hardware, NAILS AND SPECIALITIES.

BRICKS, CALCINE PLASTER, LIME & HAIR.

HEWES' PHOSPHATE, PAINTS, OIL, TURPENTINE, VARNISH, DRY JAPAN, GLASS.

J. B. FENIMORE & CO., On the Railroad, above the National Hotel. January 25—If

The Knickerbocker Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, ACCUMULATED CASH ASSETS FOR THE SECURITY OF POLICY HOLDERS, \$3,500,000.

POLICIES ISSUED, 1867; 10,300 INCOME FOR THE YEAR, OVER \$2,000,000 PAID TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF DECEASED MEMBERS. \$300,000 AMOUNT OF INSURANCE COVERED BY POLICIES, \$50,000,000

NO RESTRICTION ON RESIDENCE OR TRAVEL.—ALL POLICIES ARE NON-FORFEITABLE.

PREMIUMS CAN BE PAID ALL IN CASH, OR A PREMIUM NOTE CAN BE GIVEN FOR ONE-HALF, IF DESIRED.

The Company is Mutual in its Plan of Operations.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, SAYS:—"A Policy of Life Insurance is the cheapest and safest mode of making a certain provision for one's family."

LIFE INSURANCE, upon the approbation of Clergymen, Statesmen, Lawyers, Physicians, Merchants, &c. Get your Life Insured without delay. Life is uncertain and full of contingencies.

ALFRED G. COX, AGENT, Jan 18—6m Middletown, Del.

## ORIGIN

And History of the Books of the Bible, BOTH the Canonical and Apocryphal, showing what the Bible is not, what it is, and how to use it. (New Testament.) With Illustrations. Prof. Calvin E. Stowe, D. D. for more than thirty years Biblical Professor at Andover, Cincinnati, and other Theological Seminaries, and acknowledged to be one of the best informed Bible students of the age. This work is one of patient research, diligent study, and ripe experience, being in fact the life work of the author.

It will treat of 1. The common popular objections to the Bible at the present day. What the Bible is not, what it is, and how to use it.

2. The Apocryphal Books, and the Sacred Books, and description of the Ancient Manuscripts of the New Testament, with facsimile illustrations.

3. Brief Biographies of 100 Ancient Witnesses to the New Testament, whose testimony is so important, much of it cited in this great work.

4. The testimony for the Historical Books, and a full examination, separately, of the four Gospels.

5. The Apocryphal Gospels, and fragments of Gospels supposed to be lost.

6. Modern substitutes for the Gospel History, with an examination of the works of Strauss, Weiss, Over, Bruno Bauer, F. C. Bauer, Renan, and Schenkel, intending to meet the undermining process with regard to the authority of Scripture, so prevalent at the present day.

7. Acts of the Apostles, the Apocryphal Acts and the Epistles of Ignatius, Irenaeus, and the Apocryphal Epistles. Revelation of St. John, and the Apocryphal Revelations.

8. The Bible Prophets and the Classical Oracles contrasted.

9. The Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament, and the reason for their exclusion from the Canon.

It is a work of real value, not sectarian at all, and one of the most important works of the age. It is a History of the Books of the Bible, sufficiently critical to meet the wants of the Professor, the Clergyman and the Student, and yet so simple as to be the book needed by every Family and every Sunday School Teacher as the companion of the Bible.

This book is new and fresh from the pen of the author, who has long been urged to its preparation by Presidents of Colleges, and leading Ministers and Scholars of the various Christian denominations, and has given his best energies to its completion.

It contains about 600 pages octavo, printed from new and beautiful clear type, selected expressly for this work, illustrated with a fine steel portrait of the author, facsimiles of the early manuscripts on which the Bible was written, very curious and interesting, and also full page illustrations, engravings, all in the highest style of engraving, by the best artists in the country. It is one of the most popular books ever published. It will be furnished to subscribers in neat and substantial Extra English Cloth Binding for the low price of.....\$3 50

Price of the book in leather binding.....\$4 00

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Sold by subscription only. Those ordering will not be obliged to take the work unless it corresponds with the descriptions in every particular.

ZEIGLER, McCURDY & CO. Publishers, Philadelphia, Pa. Cincinnati, O. & St. Louis, Mo. February 22—4m

## PRINCE ALBERT.

THIS celebrated Canadian Stallion will stand for Mares, the ensuing season. INSURANCE.—One colt \$20, two colts \$18 each, three colts \$16 each, four colts \$14 each, five or more colts \$12 each.

JAMES T. SHALLCROSS, March 14—3m

## GEORGE GRAY, ATTORNEY AT LAW

AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY, New Castle, Delaware. January 18—3m

James H. Frazer, M. D. GLASGOW, DEL. OFFERS his professional services to the public. Office at the residence of R. M. Black, Esq. Jan. 4—7.

## Louisa Muhlbach's Historical Novels.

D. APPLETON & CO., 443 AND 445 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

HAVE just published, *The Empress Josephine*. An Historical Sketch of the Days of Napoleon. 1 vol. 8vo. Paper covers, \$1 50; cloth, \$2. *Napoleon and the Queen of Prussia*. 1 vol. 8vo. Paper covers, \$1 50; cloth, \$2.

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"Each succeeding novel adds to Mrs. Muhlbach's reputation as a writer of historic fiction."—*N. Y. Times*.

VI.—THEY ARE FULL OF IMAGINATION. "She is not only the skillful joiner, but a neat-handed artisan."—*Christian Witness*.

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Either of the Novels sent free by mail to any address on receipt of price. January 18—1m.

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JOSEPH H. ENOS

KEEPS constantly on hand an assortment of FURNITURE suitable to the market, consisting of

COTTAGE SUITS, BEDSTADS, CHAIRS, WASHSTANDS, Parlor and Dining Room Furniture, &c.

ALSO FURNISHING UNDERTAKER. COFFINS of all kinds and styles; Metallic Caskets; Patent Burial Cases to order. Jan. 4. If.

Dr. J. E. REGISTER, DENTIST, ELKTON, MD. OFFICE on North street, two doors above the Odd Fellows' Hall. February 8, 1868—If

E. REYNOLDS, Notary Public and Conveyancer, MIDDLETOWN, DEL.